

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): ~~An oral preparation comprising~~ A method for forming a light scattering layer inside enamel of teeth, the method comprising:

applying an oral preparation to teeth in which an endogenous colored substance is deposited in the depth of the enamel,

wherein said oral preparation comprises:

(A) from 0.02 to 0.2 wt. %, ~~[[()]]~~in terms of fluorine atom~~[[()]]~~, of a fluoride ion supplying component which is at least one selected from the group consisting of sodium fluoride, sodium monofluorophosphate, lithium fluoride, ammonium fluoride, and a mixture ~~mixtures~~ thereof;

(B) from 0.03 to 0.5 mol/kg of a combination of at least one ~~[[an]]~~ organic acid ~~with a salt thereof~~ selected from the group consisting of malic acid, tartaric acid, and a mixture thereof with a salt of the organic acid;

(C) from 0.03 to 0.5 mol/kg of potassium ion; and

(D) water;

and~~[[,]]~~

wherein said oral preparation has a pH ranging from 3 to 5.5 when diluted with water to 30 wt.% ~~a 30 wt.% dilution of the oral preparation with water has a pH ranging from 3 to 5.5.~~

Claims 2-7 (Canceled).

Claim 8 (Withdrawn): A chewing gum comprising (a) an organic acid, inorganic acid, or mixtures thereof, and (b) a fluoride ion supplying compound, wherein a light

scattering layer is formed inside enamel of the teeth when the chewing gum is applied to teeth.

Claim 9 (Withdrawn): The chewing gum according to claim 8, wherein the light scattering layer is formed at a depth of 500 μm or less from the surface of the enamel.

Claim 10 (Canceled).

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): The ~~oral preparation~~ method for forming a light scattering layer according to claim ~~[[10]]~~ 1, wherein the light scattering layer is formed at a depth of 500 μm or less from the surface of the enamel.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The ~~oral preparation~~ method for forming a light scattering layer according to claim 1, wherein no calcium ion is substantially contained.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): An oral preparation comprising:

(A) from 0.02 to 0.2 wt. %, ~~[[()]]~~ in terms of fluorine atom~~[[()]]~~, of a fluoride ion supplying component which is at least one selected from the group consisting of sodium fluoride, sodium monofluorophosphate, lithium fluoride, ammonium fluoride, and a mixture thereof;

(B) from 0.03 to 0.5 mol/kg of a combination of at least one ~~[[an]]~~ organic acid ~~with a salt thereof~~ selected from the group consisting malic acid, tartaric acid, and a mixture thereof, with a salt of the organic acid;

(C) from 0.03 to 0.5 mol/kg of potassium ion; and

(D) water;

and[[,]]

wherein said oral preparation has a pH ranging from 3 to 5.5 when diluted with water
to 30 wt.% a 30 wt.% dilution of the oral preparation with water has a pH ranging from 3 to
5.5.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): The oral preparation according to claim 13, wherein
a light scattering layer is formed inside enamel of the teeth when the oral preparation is
applied to the teeth in which an endogenous colored substance is deposited in the depth of the
enamel.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The oral preparation according to claim 14,
wherein the light scattering layer is formed at a depth of 500 μm or less from the surface of
the enamel.

Claim 16 (Canceled).

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): The oral preparation according to claim 13,
wherein no calcium ion is substantially contained.